

JAN 17 1953

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## American Notes

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### Mr Dulles's New Men

MR DULLES has made a good start toward restoring confidence in the State Department and rebuilding its shaky morale. The most important new appointment is that of General Bedell Smith as Under Secretary of State in charge of policy. He will be in command during Mr Dulles's absences abroad, which are expected to be frequent. General Smith comes from the Central Intelligence Agency, which sifts information from all over the world. His wide experience—he was Ambassador in Moscow for three years and General Eisenhower's Chief of Staff during the war—and his courage, as he put it in the words of the *Washington Post*, to act as a "spiritual column" for a demoralised department. He is one of the few men who have successfully bearded Senator McCarthy in a loyalty case. The reorganisation and streamlining of the department are to be given the recognition they merit, in Mr Dulles's opinion, by the creation of a new Under Secretaryship for administration, to be filled by Mr. Donald Lourie, the president of the Quaker Oats Company.

In the field the department will be much fortified by the willingness of Dr. Conant, the president of Harvard University, to become the new American High Commissioner in Germany. Dr. Conant is in the front rank as a scientist and expert on atomic energy, as an educator, and as a public servant. It is a feather in General Eisenhower's cap that he has been able to secure his services in so crucial a post. As important, however, as any appointment at the top level is the decision not to disturb a number of men who are doing a good job at the second level: Mr. Matthews, the deputy Under Secretary of State and several assistant secretaries. Similar good sense is being shown at the Department of Defence.

Mr Dulles evidently will not be tied down to day-to-day administration. One of the projects close to his heart is the commission to plan and co-ordinate psychological strategy in the cold war which General Eisenhower is said to have decided to create. Co-ordination should not be difficult, with General Smith, who used to be responsible for some undercover work, at the State Department and his old job at the intelligence agency in the hands of Mr. Allen Dulles, the brother of the Secretary of State. The question rather is who will apply the brakes. Mr Dulles's continued hopes of stirring up anti-Communist feeling in the satellite countries awakens an uneasy echo of his "liberation" policy which caused so much alarm during the campaign.

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